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Establishment of an international criminal court

Establishment of an international criminal court: programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.6/53/L.9/Rev.1

Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly

Requests contained in draft resolution A/C.6/53/L.9/Rev.1

1. It may be recalled that, in the light of the requests contained in paragraphs 4 and 5 of draft resolution A/C.6/53/L.9, entitled "Establishment of an international criminal court", a statement of the programme budget implications of the draft resolution was submitted in document A/C.6/53/L.15.

2. In view of the subsequent revisions to the requests contained in the draft resolution, a revised draft resolution was issued in document A/C.6/53/L.9/Rev.1, also entitled "Establishment of an international criminal court".

3. By operative paragraphs 4 and 5 of draft resolution A/C.6/53/L.9/Rev.1, the General Assembly would:

(a) Request the Secretary-General to convene the Preparatory Commission to meet, in accordance with resolution F adopted by the United Nations Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Establishment of an International Criminal Court, in order to perform the mandate of that resolution, and in that connection to discuss ways to enhance the effectiveness and acceptance of the Court, from 16 to 26 February 1999 (2 weeks), 26 July to 13 August 1999 (3 weeks) and 29 November to 17 December 1999 (3 weeks);

(b) Request the Secretary-General to make available to the Preparatory Commission secretariat services, not including the preparation of working documents, to enable it to perform its functions.

4. Since the request, as revised, contained in paragraph 5 of draft resolution A/C.6/53/L.9/Rev.1 would require the provision of secretariat services for the Preparatory Commission, but exclude the preparation of working documents, it is anticipated that not

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all the resource provisions, as reflected in paragraph 6 of document A/C.6/53/L.15, would be required. Requirements for secretariat services to the Preparatory Commission would therefore be absorbed within the resources approved under section 6 (Legal affairs) of the programme budget for the biennium 1998–1999, on the explicit understanding that no preparation of working documents would be required of the Secretariat.

5. Accordingly, should the General Assembly adopt draft resolution A/C.6/53/L.9/Rev.1, no additional requirement would arise under the programme budget for the biennium 1998–1999.